4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the loose skin surface [and] to smoothen the loose skin surface.

Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the loose skin surface [and] to improve a contour of the loose skin surface.

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6 (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the loose skin surface [and reduce a] with a minimal amount of scarring of the loose skin surface.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the loose skin surface [and] to reduce a wrinkling of the loose skin surface.

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(Amended) The method of claim 8, [further comprising:] wherein the energy source includes an RF electrode coupled to the RF energy source, the RF electrode including an RF energy delivery surface positionable on the loose skin surface.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising: <u>providing</u> a source of electrolytic media coupled to RF electrode.

- 14. (Amended) The method of claim [11]13, wherein the light source is a coherent light source.
- 15. (Amended) The method of claim [12] 14, [further comprising:] wherein the energy source includes a coherent light delivery device configured to be coupled to the coherent light source.
  - 16. (Amended) The method of claim [11]13, wherein the light source is an incoherent light source.

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- 18. (Amended) The method of claim [17] 1, wherein the energy source is an ultrasound source.
- 19. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the skin surface to [the collagen containing tissue is] partially denature[d] the collagen containing tissue by cleaving heat labile cross-links of collagen molecules.



20. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising: providing a cooling medium [configured to create a cooling of] to cool the loose skin surface.

28. (Amended) An apparatus for applying energy to a loose skin surface, comprising: an identification means for detecting a loose skin surface; an RF energy conduction [electrolytic media] means;

an RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] delivery means, adapted to receive the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] and release the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] to the loose skin surface.

an RF electrode means coupled to the RF energy conduction [electrolytic media] means, wherein the RF electrode means transfers energy to the RF energy conduction means and the RF energy conduction [electrolytic media] means delivers energy to the loose skin surface to create a controlled cell necrosis and tighten the loose skin surface.

(Amended) The apparatus of claim 28[1], wherein the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] is an electrolytic solution.

30. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28[1], wherein the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] is an electrolytic gel.

- 31. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the RF electrode means is separated from the loose skin surface.
- 32. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the RF electrode means is positioned in an interior of the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] delivery means.
- (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the RF electrode means is positioned on an exterior surface of the RF energy conduction means [electrolytic media] delivery means.



- 34. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the <u>RF electrode means is configured to transfer sufficient energy to the RF energy conduction</u> [electrolytic media] means [receives sufficient energy from the RF electrode means] to create a contraction of collagen in the skin and the tightening of the loose skin surface.
- 35. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the <u>RF electrode means is configured to transfer sufficient energy to the RF energy conduction</u> [electrolytic media] means [receives sufficient energy from the RF electrode means] to deliver energy through a papillary dermis layer to create the controlled cell necrosis and the tightening of the loose skin surface.
- 36. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the <u>RF electrode means is configured to transfer sufficient energy to the RF energy conduction</u> [electrolytic media] means [receives sufficient energy from the RF electrode means] to supply energy through a reticular dermis layer of the skin <u>to create the controlled cell necrosis and the tightening of the loose skin surface.</u>
- 37. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the <u>RF electrode means is configured to transfer sufficient energy to the RF energy conduction</u> [electrolytic media] means [receives sufficient energy from the RF electrode means] to supply energy through a subcutaneous layer of the skin and an underlying soft tissue to create the controlled cell necrosis and the tightening of the loose skin surface.
- 38. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the RF electrode means [is coupled to] <u>includes</u> an RF energy source.
  - 39. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:
- a sensing [sensor] means coupled to loose skin surface to detect a characteristic of the loose skin surface.
  - 40. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:
  - a feedback control means coupled to the sensing [sensor] means and to an RF energy source means.

## **REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-68 are pending in this application.

